

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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U.S. CHARGES 43 MEMBERS OF BRONX GANG AND ITS ASSOCIATES WITH NARCOTICS CONSPIRACY

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, PASQUALE D'AMURO, the Assistant Director in Charge of the New York Field Office of the FBI, and RAYMOND W. KELLY, the Commissioner of the New York City Police Department, announced today the unsealing of a federal narcotics Indictment charging 43 members and associates of a violent drug trafficking gang, referred to in the Indictment as "Hellbound." The indictment contains one count charging all 43 defendants with participating in a conspiracy beginning in or about 1999 and continuing through January 2005, to distribute crack cocaine.

The Indictment names the following defendants as being members and associates of Hellbound: ANDREW ALSTON, a/k/a "Drew," a/k/a "Drew High," SAMMIE ARTIS, a/k/a "Poppy," JONATHAN BETHUNE, a/k/a "Eats," ROBERT BILLINGS, a/k/a "Short," a/k/a "Shawn Thames," a/k/a "Little Rob," TREY BOGLIN, a/k/a "Spread," MICHAEL COLEMAN, a/k/a "Mike C.," TONY FELDER, a/k/a "Psycho," SAMUEL FLEMMINGS, a/k/a "Vernon," a/k/a "V," ORANDE FORDE, a/k/a "O," SEAN GILKES, a/k/a "Nut," ERIC GLOVER, a/k/a "Gucci," KARON JOHNSON, a/k/a "Crazy Loc," DONNELL JONES, a/k/a "Poo," a/k/a "Norebell Lynch," JAMES JONES, a/k/a "House," ROGER

LEE, a/k/a "Half," DENNIS LEWIS, a/k/a "Two-Piece," ALVIN MARTINEZ, a/k/a "Al," JEFFREY MARTINEZ, a/k/a "Jus," NELSON MARTINEZ, a/k/a "Iz," GREGORY MATHIS, a/k/a "Geico," SHAWN MAYZYCK, a/k/a "Little Shawn," JOSUE MEJIA, CLAYTON MILLS, a/k/a "Bugs," JASON MITCHELL, a/k/a "J-One," GREGORY MOORE, a/k/a "Flip Flop," a/k/a "Bubba," JASON OATMAN, a/k/a "J-Worm," PEDRO RABELL, a/k/a "Speedy," RAHEEM RICHARDSON, JEREMY ROBINSON, a/k/a "Remmy," SAMMY SANTANA, SHAWN SAUNDERS, a/k/a "Big Shawn," XAVIER SAVILLA, CRYSTAL SHAVER, DENISE SHEPARD, NATHANIEL SLATER, a/k/a "Boo," CHRIS SMITH, KASIEM SMITH, a/k/a "Cash," ANGEL SOTO, a/k/a "Pisshead," GEORGE VERDEJO, a/k/a "G," a/k/a "Georgie," ANTHONY WARD, a/k/a "Inf," a/k/a "Infinite," BERRON WEST, JAMEL WILLIAMS, a/k/a "Marley," and DION WINDOR.

As alleged in the Indictment, the defendants operated drug markets within the Mitchel Houses Project, which is located within the 40th Precinct in the Bronx, New York. According to the Indictment, members of Hellbound and their associates committed, conspired, attempted, and threatened to commit acts of violence to protect and expand their drug-trafficking operations. For instance, when members of rival gangs threatened the Hellbound territory, Hellbound members and their associates allegedly gathered to assault those rivals and shared firearms among themselves for the purpose of protecting their territory and/or retaliating against rival drug organizations.

Also as alleged in the Indictment, each residential apartment building located within the Mitchel Houses Project operated as a market for the sale of crack cocaine controlled by Hellbound members and

associates. From about 1999 to about January 2005, the amounts of crack cocaine sold at each building greatly exceeded 50 grams. For example, in January 2002 alone, workers at 205 Alexander Avenue in the Bronx sold more than 1,400 grams of crack cocaine.

According to the Indictment, narcotics-trafficking workers at each building filled the following roles: (i) "pitchers" who collected money from customers and served customers with crack cocaine, (ii) "managers" who collected money from the pitchers and supervised the re-supplying of crack cocaine to the pitchers for sale to customers, and (iii) "bosses," comprised of one to three individuals at each building, who oversaw all drug-trafficking operations at each building, including the purchase of narcotics from outside suppliers, and the distribution of narcotics proceeds among workers.

While each building operated as a market for crack cocaine, workers from each Mitchel Houses building also allegedly collaborated in the sale of crack cocaine as follows: (i) managers and bosses from different Mitchel Houses buildings frequently shared apartments in which to store crack cocaine, (ii) pitchers and managers sometimes moved between different Mitchel Houses buildings, working for different bosses, and (iii) pitchers, managers, and bosses worked together in retaliating against outside individuals who threatened the area controlled by Hellbound and its associates.

During all or some of period from about 1999 to about January 2005, the following defendants allegedly served as bosses of Mitchel

Houses buildings: (i) TREY BOGLIN at 175 Alexander Avenue, (ii) ALVIN MARTINEZ, JEFFREY MARTINEZ, and NELSON MARTINEZ at 205 Alexander Avenue, (iii) ERIC GLOVER at 215 Alexander Avenue, (iv) NATHANIEL SLATER at 350 E. 137th Street, (v) BERRON WEST at 175 Willis Avenue, (vi) ANTHONY WARD at 225 Willis Avenue, and (vii) ORANDE FORDE and SHAWN SAUNDERS at 303 135th Street.

If convicted, each of the 43 defendants faces a maximum sentence of life in prison without parole.

This case has been assigned to Chief United Sates District Judge MICHAEL B. MUKASEY.

Mr. KELLEY praised the outstanding efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the New York City Police Department, and thanked the New York City Housing Authority Office of Inspector General and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Inspector General for their assistance in the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys KATHERINE A. LEMIRE and VINCENT TORTORELLA are in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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